



Utah Labor Market Report

April 2002, Volume 12, Number 3

Current Indicators

Utah's unemployment rate drifted up to 5.3 percent in February, a slight increase from January's revised 5.2 percent. Although the tally of claimants for state unemployment compensation continued to increase, it appears that temporary hiring for the Olympic Winter Games prevented the number of unemployed from climbing even higher. Roughly 61,700 Utahns were unemployed in February 2002, a 47-percent jump from the 41,900 estimated for February 2001, when the rate was 3.8 percent.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions, the year-over rate of change in the number of nonfarm wage and salaried jobs, showed a loss of 0.4 percent, or 4,500 jobs, for February 2002. This indicator plummeted during 2001, dropping from 2.4 percent growth for January 2001 to a 1.5 percent loss for December 2001. The February moderation in this trend is probably a reflection of temporary hiring for the Olympic Games.

For the United States, the February 2002 unemployment rate, at 5.5 percent, is down an insignificant one-tenth of a point from January's figure. More notably, the 1.0 percent year-over drop in the U.S. nonfarm jobs total continues to reflect the nation's economic slowdown. This is the fifth month in a row with a year-over loss in jobs; the last time the U.S. lost jobs year-over was in 1992. Interestingly, only 20 months ago, U.S. job growth was 2.7 percent.

Utah's total nonfarm employment can be disaggregated into two categories: private (non-government) and public. From February 2001 to February 2002, the private sector has seen a net loss of 6,900 jobs (0.8 percent). This was partially offset by a gain of 2,400 government jobs.

Industry-by-Industry

Through most of 2001, construction was a bright spot in Utah's dimming economy. Its employment remained surprisingly resilient, actually exceeding year-earlier levels in the autumn months. However, with the completion of many commercial projects, construction employment dropped sharply this winter. At 59,200 in February 2002, construction employment is 5,300 jobs (8 percent) fewer than in February 2001 and is at its lowest number since February 1997.

Temporary employment associated with the Olympic Games occurred largely in the services division. Entertainment/recreational, business (security), and lodging services have all seen employment jumps in January and February. Thus, the division shows a net growth of 8,700 jobs (2.8 percent) for February year-over compared to December's net loss of 4,600 jobs. On the down-side, computer-related business services experienced a year-over loss of 4,200 jobs. Other services industries marked generally modest expansion.

After relatively rapid employment growth during 2001 due to a large jump for a single employer, the finance/insurance/real estate industry group is settling back down. Even so, its modest expansion of 800 jobs (1.4 percent) is welcome in this economic climate.

The recession in Utah's manufacturing division persists: a year-over loss of 8,100 jobs (6.3 percent) tells the story. Hardest-hit are primary metals (steel and copper), fabricated metals/machinery/computers, and transportation equipment, which show an aggregated year-over loss of 5,600 jobs. This division's performance is similar to the U.S. manufacturing division's loss of 7.2 percent of its jobs February-to-February.

Olympics-related employment gains have also apparently benefited the trade division (wholesale plus re-

tail). Its year-over loss of 1,200 jobs (0.5 percent) is a big improvement over the December-to-December loss of 6,900 jobs.

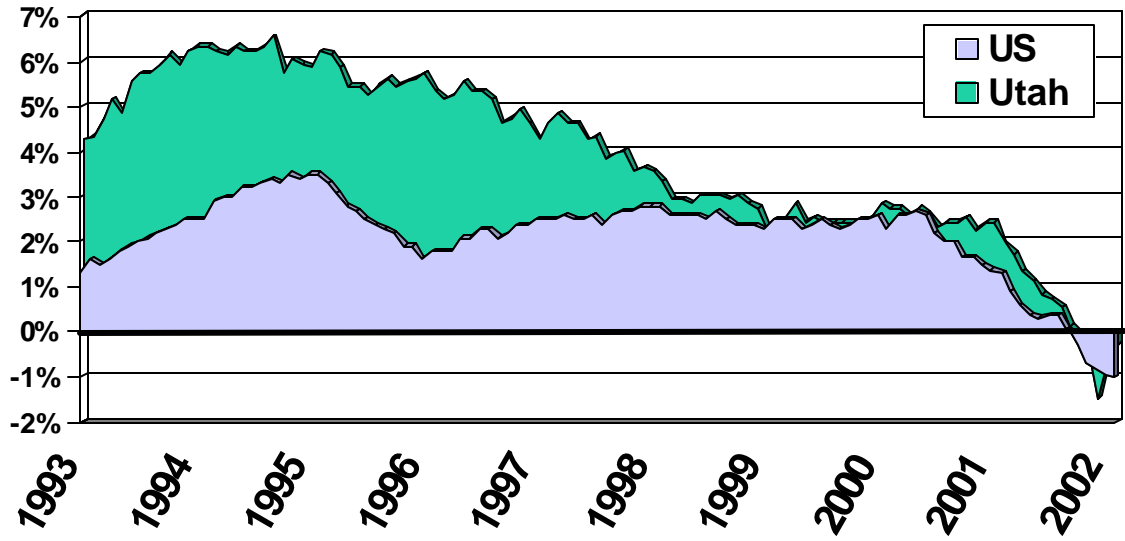
Employment cutbacks in the various transportation industries, in communications, and in the electric, gas, and sanitary-services group have cumulated to a 1,700-job, 2.8-percent deficit over the past twelve 12 months. Air transportation's modest 200-job gain, likely Olympics-related, is the only bright spot.

Total employment in mining has fallen by 100 jobs from the February 2001 level. "Other mining and quarrying" (largely oil and gas extraction) added 400 jobs; this gain was offset by metal mining's 400-position loss. Moreover, coal mining lost 100 jobs. This division's current 7,600 employment total is near its all-time low and only a fraction of its 20,300 peak achieved in 1981.

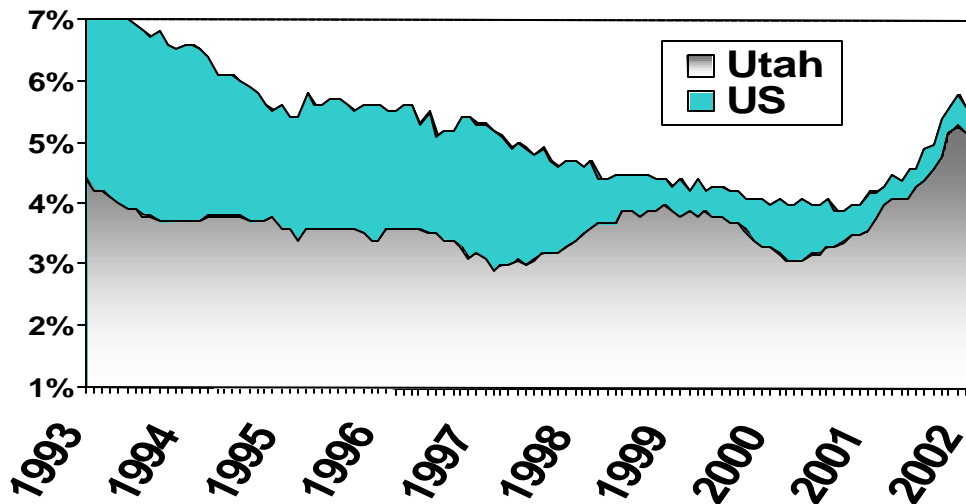
Government employers in Utah have 2,400 more staff than a year ago, an increase of 1.3 percent. The federal government's 1-percent, 300-job expansion is due to a 700-job increase at defense installations largely offset by a 400-job loss in other federal agencies. The state government budget woes are already impacting state employment—higher education made no year-over gains, while other state agencies lost 500 jobs. A net loss of nearly a percentage point is the result. Local government maintained its moderate growth pace by adding 2,500 jobs, a 2.5-percent expansion weighted toward non-education activities.

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Year-over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates



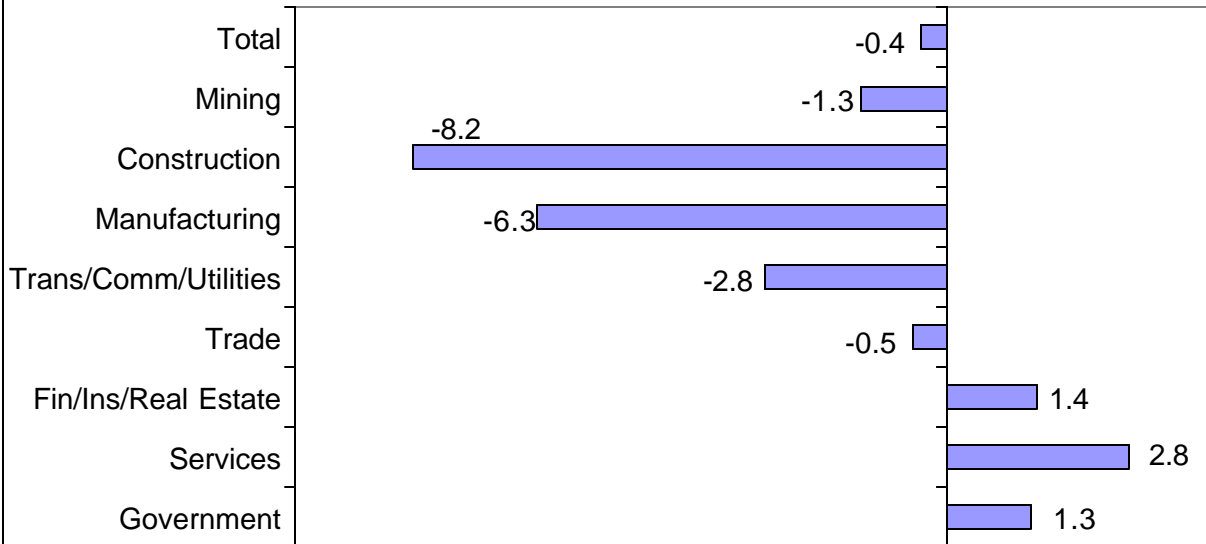
Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

Numbers are in thousands and are
not seasonally adjusted.

	February		Percentage	January		Percentage
	2002(p)	2001	Change	2002(p)	2001	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	1,141.8	1,100.3	3.8	1,137.2	1,102.4	3.2
Employed	1,076.2	1,055.9	1.9	1,076.8	1,061.9	1.4
Unemployed	65.6	44.4	47.7	60.4	40.5	49.1
Unemployment Rate	5.7	4.0		5.3	3.7	
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,068.3	1,072.8	-0.4	1,064.1	1,069.4	-0.5
Mining	7.6	7.7	-1.3	7.4	7.7	-3.9
Metal Mining	1.8	2.2	-18.2	1.7	2.2	-22.7
Bituminous Coal Mining	1.4	1.5	-6.7	1.4	1.5	-6.7
Other Mining	4.4	4.0	10.0	4.3	4.0	7.5
Construction	59.2	64.5	-8.2	63.4	65.0	-2.5
Manufacturing	121.0	129.1	-6.3	121.3	130.1	-6.8
Durable Goods	79.9	86.0	-7.1	80.0	87.0	-8.0
Primary Metals	4.4	5.8	-24.1	4.3	5.8	-25.9
Fabricated Metals, Machinery, & Computers	19.1	21.7	-12.0	19.3	21.8	-11.5
Electrical/Electric Equipment (ex. Computers)	8.4	9.2	-8.7	8.4	9.2	-8.7
Transportation Equipment	13.0	14.6	-11.0	12.9	15.0	-14.0
Other Durable Goods	35.0	34.7	0.9	35.1	35.2	-0.3
Non-durable Goods	41.1	43.1	-4.6	41.3	43.1	-4.2
Food & Kindred Products	12.6	12.6	0.0	12.7	12.6	0.8
Other Non-durable Goods	28.5	30.5	-6.6	28.6	30.5	-6.2
Transportation, Communication, & Utilities	58.8	60.5	-2.8	59.0	61.3	-3.8
Railroad Transportation	1.8	1.9	-5.3	1.8	1.9	-5.3
Trucking & Warehouse	19.7	20.7	-4.8	19.8	20.7	-4.3
Transportation by Air	15.1	14.9	1.3	15.0	15.0	0.0
Other Transportation & Related Services	5.1	5.3	-3.8	5.1	5.4	-5.6
Communications	10.4	10.8	-3.7	10.6	11.4	-7.0
Electricity, Gas, & Sanitary Services	6.7	6.9	-2.9	6.7	6.9	-2.9
Trade	245.7	246.9	-0.5	245.2	248.3	-1.2
Wholesale Trade	50.1	50.9	-1.6	50.0	50.7	-1.4
Retail Trade	195.6	196.0	-0.2	195.2	197.6	-1.2
Food Stores	29.5	30.9	-4.5	29.7	30.9	-3.9
Auto Dealers/Parts Stores, & Gas Stations	24.0	22.4	7.1	23.5	22.4	4.9
Eating & Drinking Places	66.1	63.8	3.6	65.0	63.8	1.9
Home Furniture/Equipment & Clothing Stores	19.3	19.8	-2.5	20.4	20.6	-1.0
Gen. Merchandise, Building & Garden Supply	31.0	32.7	-5.2	31.3	33.1	-5.4
Miscellaneous Retail	25.7	26.4	-2.7	25.3	26.8	-5.6
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	60.0	59.2	1.4	60.0	58.9	1.9
Depository Institutions	17.2	17.2	0.0	17.4	17.3	0.6
Other Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	42.8	42.0	1.9	42.6	41.6	2.4
Services	321.7	313.0	2.8	315.6	311.5	1.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	19.1	18.2	4.9	18.2	17.8	2.2
Personal, Entertainment & Recreational	38.4	34.1	12.6	38.2	33.3	14.7
Computer-Related Business Services	25.5	29.7	-14.1	25.4	29.8	-14.8
Other Business Services	60.0	58.3	2.9	57.5	59.7	-3.7
Auto Repair/Rental/Parking	11.4	11.2	1.8	11.1	11.2	-0.9
Health Services	68.8	67.1	2.5	68.3	66.7	2.4
Education, Social, & Membership Organizations	58.3	55.6	4.9	56.8	54.7	3.8
Legal & Miscellaneous Services	6.3	6.1	3.3	6.3	6.0	5.0
Engineering, Accounting & Management	24.8	24.4	1.6	25.0	24.1	3.7
Other Repair, Ag. Services, & Museums	9.1	8.3	9.6	8.8	8.2	7.3
Government	194.3	191.9	1.3	192.2	186.6	3.0
Federal Government	33.6	33.3	0.9	33.8	31.8	6.3
U.S. Defense	14.2	13.5	5.2	14.3	13.5	5.9
Other Federal	19.4	19.8	-2.0	19.5	18.3	6.6
State Government	59.3	59.7	-0.7	58.7	57.1	2.8
State Schools	32.8	32.7	0.3	32.3	31.1	3.9
Other State	26.5	27.0	-1.9	26.4	26.0	1.5
Local Government	101.4	98.9	2.5	99.7	97.7	2.0
Local Education	63.0	62.1	1.4	61.9	61.2	1.1
Other Local	38.4	36.8	4.3	37.8	36.5	3.6
Private Sector	874.0	880.9	-0.8	871.9	882.8	-1.2

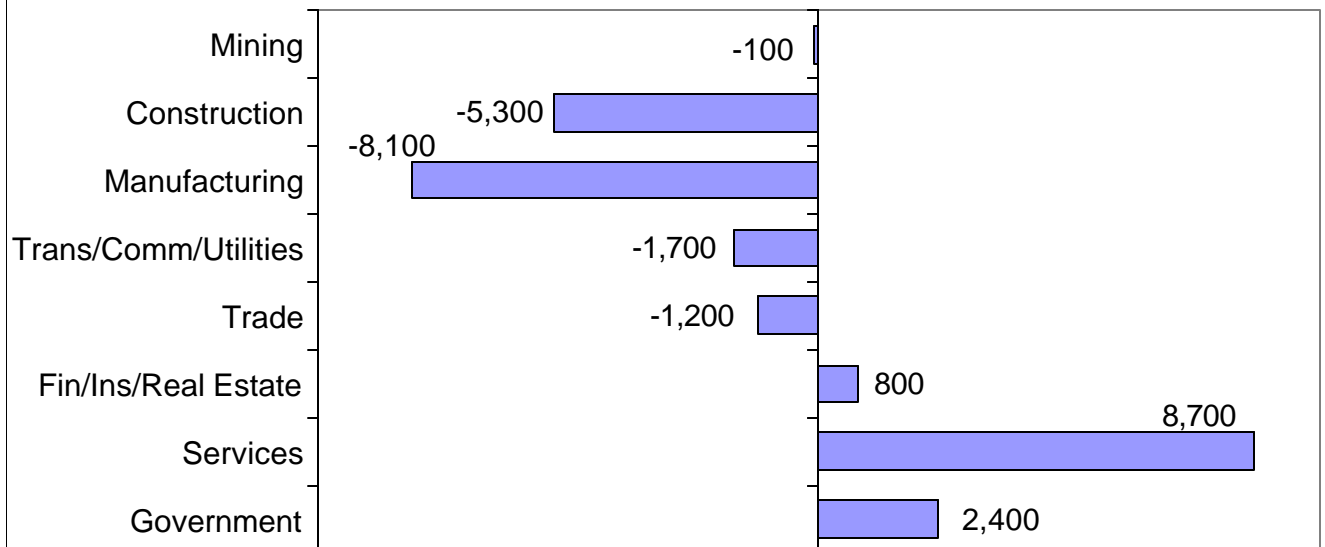
Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information; 3/29/02.

Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs February 2001-2002



Source: Utah DWS

Nonfarm Job Change February 2001-2002



Source: Utah DWS

HOURS AND EARNINGS - UTAH

Hours and Earnings for Production and Nonsupervisory Personnel

	Average Hourly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Weekly Earnings			
	February		% Chg.	January 2002(r)	February		% Chg.	January 2002(r)	February		% Chg.	January 2002(r)
	2002(p)	2001			2002(p)	2001			2002(p)	2001		
Mining	\$18.94	\$18.86	0.4	\$19.10	44.1	42.4	4.0	44.7	\$835.25	\$799.66	4.5	\$853.77
Metal Mining	20.05	18.99	5.6	19.48	41.8	41.2	1.5	44.9	838.09	782.39	7.1	874.65
Manufacturing	14.00	13.80	1.4	13.69	36.7	39.7	-7.6	38.4	513.80	547.86	-6.2	525.70
Durable Goods	14.42	14.31	0.8	14.38	37.2	40.1	-7.2	38.0	536.42	573.83	-6.5	546.44
Primary Metals	23.30	22.30	4.5	22.18	40.5	44.0	-8.0	42.0	943.65	981.20	-3.8	931.56
Fabricated Metal Prod. & Mach.	15.12	14.74	2.6	15.00	36.7	36.9	-0.5	34.9	554.90	543.91	2.0	523.50
Transportation Equipment	16.56	16.54	0.1	16.64	45.5	42.1	8.1	44.0	753.48	696.33	8.2	732.16
Nondurable Goods	12.97	12.61	2.9	12.19	35.3	38.6	-8.5	39.1	457.84	486.75	-5.9	476.63
Food and Kindred Products	12.79	12.23	4.6	11.16	34.5	40.5	-14.8	39.7	441.26	495.32	-10.9	443.05
Trade	11.32	10.91	3.8	11.58	29.4	29.5	-0.3	28.4	332.81	321.85	3.4	328.87
Wholesale	14.07	14.33	-1.8	14.57	40.0	39.6	1.0	38.4	562.80	567.47	-0.8	559.49
Retail	10.39	9.75	6.6	10.58	27.0	27.2	-0.7	26.2	280.53	265.20	5.8	277.20
General Merchandise	9.75	9.84	-0.9	10.07	29.7	28.1	5.7	28.1	289.58	276.50	4.7	282.97
Food Stores	11.85	11.12	6.6	12.01	28.8	28.7	0.3	28.8	341.28	319.14	6.9	345.89

HOURS AND EARNINGS - Salt Lake City - Ogden MSA

	Average Hourly Earnings				Average Weekly Hours				Average Weekly Earnings			
	February		% Chg.	January 2002(r)	February		% Chg.	January 2002(r)	January		% Chg.	December 2001(r)
	2002(p)	2001			2002(p)	2001			2002(p)	2001		
Mining	\$16.51	\$18.84	-12.4	\$19.67	37.3	43.3	-13.9	42.4	\$615.82	\$815.77	-24.5	\$834.01
Manufacturing	13.87	13.53	2.5	14.17	34.8	37.7	-7.7	34.7	482.68	510.08	-5.4	491.70
Durable Goods	13.72	13.40	2.4	14.10	34.4	37.4	-8.0	34.3	471.97	501.16	-5.8	483.63
Nondurable Goods	14.24	13.85	2.8	14.34	35.7	38.5	-7.3	35.9	508.37	533.23	-4.7	514.81
Trade	11.66	11.47	1.7	11.98	29.8	30.1	-1.0	28.8	347.47	345.25	0.6	345.02
Wholesale	14.40	14.96	-3.7	15.10	38.4	38.8	-1.0	36.9	552.96	580.45	-4.7	557.19
Retail	10.56	10.08	4.8	10.75	27.3	27.7	-1.4	26.5	288.29	279.22	3.2	284.88

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information.

**NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY and COMPONENTS OF THE LABOR FORCE
OF UTAH'S METROPOLITAN AREAS**

Numbers are in thousands, not seasonally adjusted.	Salt Lake City - Ogden MSA					Provo - Orem MSA				
	<u>February</u> <u>2002(p)</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Jan.</u> <u>2001(p)</u>	<u>Dec.</u> <u>2001(p)</u>	<u>February</u> <u>2002(p)</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Jan.</u> <u>2001(p)</u>	<u>Dec.</u> <u>2001(p)</u>
Civilian Labor Force	728.5	702.1	3.8	724.8	715.5	176.7	171.0	3.3	174.9	175.3
Employed	688.8	675.0	2.0	688.3	681.7	166.1	165.4	0.4	165.4	166.7
Unemployed	39.7	27.1	46.5	36.5	33.8	10.6	5.6	89.3	9.5	8.6
Unemployment Rate	5.4	3.9	--	5.0	4.7	6.0	3.3	--	5.4	4.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment	712.3	715.6	-0.5	710.7	722.7	150.8	153.8	-2.0	150.3	155.4
Mining	2.3	2.7	-14.8	2.3	2.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Construction	39.7	42.1	-5.7	40.3	43.4	9.8	9.8	0.0	9.8	10.7
Manufacturing	77.2	81.5	-5.3	77.4	78.7	16.9	19.4	-12.9	16.9	17.4
Durable Goods	52.5	55.9	-6.1	52.7	53.7	9.5	11.5	-17.4	9.4	9.6
Non-durable Goods	24.7	25.6	-3.5	24.7	25.0	7.4	7.9	-6.3	7.5	7.8
Trans., Comm., & Utilities	46.2	48.0	-3.7	46.4	46.6	2.5	2.7	-7.4	2.5	2.6
Trade	162.7	166.1	-2.0	163.7	170.4	32.7	33.2	-1.5	32.7	34.5
Wholesale Trade	39.5	40.2	-1.7	39.5	39.7	5.4	5.7	-5.3	5.4	5.5
Retail Trade	123.2	125.9	-2.1	124.2	130.7	27.3	27.5	-0.7	27.3	29.0
Finance, Insur., & Real Estate	49.5	48.7	1.6	49.4	49.7	4.9	4.7	4.3	5.0	5.0
Services	210.6	203.9	3.3	209.2	208.0	61.7	62.4	-1.1	61.2	62.8
Government	124.1	122.6	1.2	122.0	123.5	22.2	21.5	3.3	22.2	22.3
Federal Government	27.9	27.5	1.5	27.3	27.2	1.0	1.1	-9.1	1.1	1.1
State Government	40.4	40.5	-0.2	39.5	40.6	5.6	5.7	-1.8	5.7	5.8
Local Government	55.8	54.6	2.2	55.2	55.7	15.6	14.8	5.4	15.4	15.4
Private Sector	588.2	593.0	-0.8	588.7	599.2	128.6	132.3	-2.8	128.1	133.1

Notes: The Salt Lake City-Ogden Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is comprised of Salt Lake, Davis, and Weber counties.

The Provo-Orem MSA is Utah County.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 03/29/02.

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	February 2002(p)	February 2001	Percent Change	January 2002(r)	December 2001(r)
State Total	1,068,300	1,073,443	-0.5	1,064,100	1,085,600
Bear River	59,719	60,139	-1.7	59,139	61,053
Box Elder	16,568	17,225	-4.2	16,501	16,978
Cache	42,729	42,477	-0.6	42,215	43,625
Rich	422	437	-3.2	423	450
Wasatch Front	725,465	728,679	-0.7	723,818	735,800
North	174,995	173,198	-0.3	172,724	177,674
Davis	86,299	84,024	2.7	86,269	88,464
Morgan	1,607	1,569	4.1	1,633	1,556
Weber	87,089	87,605	-3.2	84,822	87,654
South	550,470	555,481	-0.8	551,095	558,126
Salt Lake	538,912	544,052	-0.8	539,609	546,582
Tooele	11,558	11,429	0.5	11,485	11,544
Mountainland	173,516	176,636	-2.2	172,789	177,706
Summit	18,287	18,050	0.3	18,097	17,714
Utah	150,800	154,159	-2.5	150,300	155,400
Wasatch	4,429	4,427	-0.8	4,392	4,593
Central	20,558	20,697	-1.6	20,361	21,024
Juab	2,662	2,554	2.5	2,618	2,626
Millard	3,389	3,434	-2.3	3,354	3,392
Piute	332	277	19.8	332	282
Sanpete	6,413	6,604	-3.1	6,402	6,801
Sevier	6,817	6,896	-2.2	6,745	6,933
Wayne	944	932	-2.3	910	990
Southwestern	54,989	53,898	0.8	54,345	55,364
Beaver	1,733	1,788	-4.1	1,715	1,770
Garfield	1,628	1,638	-2.4	1,598	1,715
Iron	13,565	13,826	-1.3	13,644	14,147
Kane	2,547	2,471	1.1	2,497	2,571
Washington	35,516	34,175	2.1	34,890	35,162
Uintah Basin	15,330	14,569	4.4	15,217	15,429
Daggett	253	295	-13.3	256	307
Duchesne	5,227	4,829	7.5	5,191	5,240
Uintah	9,850	9,445	3.4	9,770	9,881
Southeastern	18,723	18,825	-2.1	18,431	19,223
Carbon	8,728	8,406	2.8	8,641	8,934
Emery	3,094	3,398	-8.5	3,108	3,126
Grand	3,455	3,429	-4.3	3,281	3,545
San Juan	3,445	3,592	-5.3	3,402	3,619
Salt Lake-Ogden MS.	712,300	715,681	-0.7	710,700	722,700

p = preliminary r = revised but not final.

Note: Numbers have been left unrounded for convenience rather than to denote accuracy.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information, 03/29/02.

Utah's Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

	<u>Feb2002(p)</u>	<u>Jan2002(r)</u>	<u>Dec2001(r)</u>	<u>Feb2001(r)</u>
State Total	5.3	5.2	5.3	3.8
Bear River	4.8	4.6	4.6	3.5
Box Elder	6.8	6.5	6.7	5.3
Cache	4.0	3.8	3.8	2.8
Rich	4.8	7.8	5.5	5.1
Wasatch Front	5.4	5.1	5.3	3.8
North	5.2	5.1	5.2	4.1
Davis	4.3	4.4	4.4	3.5
Morgan	4.4	4.7	4.8	3.4
Weber	6.2	5.9	6.1	4.8
South	5.5	5.2	5.4	3.7
Salt Lake	5.4	5.1	5.3	3.6
Tooele	8.9	8.7	9.0	6.3
Mountainland	5.9	5.6	5.8	3.3
Summit	6.7	7.4	7.7	4.6
Utah	5.8	5.4	5.5	3.1
Wasatch	8.1	7.3	8.4	5.7
Central	6.3	6.1	6.4	4.4
Juab	8.0	7.2	7.4	4.0
Millard	5.1	5.5	6.1	4.0
Piute	5.1	6.5	8.4	7.0
Sanpete	6.4	6.4	6.8	4.5
Sevier	6.2	5.6	5.7	4.3
Wayne	6.0	6.4	5.6	6.3
Southwestern	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.1
Beaver	4.9	4.6	4.6	3.8
Garfield	11.4	7.9	9.9	8.7
Iron	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.4
Kane	3.9	2.2	3.7	4.0
Washington	4.2	4.5	4.4	3.7
Uintah Basin	6.4	6.0	6.6	4.8
Daggett	5.0	6.1	4.0	4.8
Duchesne	7.9	7.2	8.1	6.0
Uintah	5.7	5.3	5.9	4.1
Southeastern	7.2	7.3	8.2	6.5
Carbon	5.8	5.3	6.5	6.1
Emery	9.6	10.9	11.1	7.7
Grand	6.1	7.1	7.4	4.3
San Juan	9.1	9.0	10.0	8.8
Salt Lake-Ogden MSA	5.4	5.1	5.2	3.8
United States	5.5	5.6	5.8	4.2

f=forecast p=preliminary r=revised

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information.



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UTAH LABOR MARKET REPORT

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NOTES

(f) - forecast

(p) - preliminary

(r) - revised

Salt Lake - Ogden Metropolitan
Statistical Area (MSA) -- Salt Lake,
Davis, and Weber counties.

Provo-Orem MSA -- Utah County

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Utah Department of Workforce Services is to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive employment-related and supportive services responsive to the needs of the employers, job seekers, and the community.